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ing linked with the canon law in disfavor, suffered for a time in credit and influence, various causes operated to restore and strengthen its hold. It was kept alive in the universities, and the changes wrought in the relations of England with other European powers in the sixteenth century imparted to its study an importance which can scarcely be overestimated. In 1524 first appeared the great work of Grotius, entitled *De Jure Belli et Pacis*. It may be said to have appeared in the fulness of time; for it was then that nations were beginning to take a wider view of their mutual duties and relations, and Grotius' appeal to reason and conscience in international dealings found a response and an application which could not have been expected earlier. His influence was felt in Great Britain no less than on the continent. Having held for centuries an attitude of isolation, England then began to enter effectively into the concert of European nations, in which the individuality of her development, and the growth of her physical power, especially at sea, had prepared her to play a striking part. The system into which she entered was an organization governed by the conceptions of the Roman law, the study of which then became essential. In 1549, a visitation of the University of Cambridge was made for the purpose, among others, of improving instruction in the civil law; and on this occasion the Duke of Somerset, then Protector of the Kingdom, wrote to Bishop Ridley, one of the visitors, saying: "And we are sure ye are not ignorant how necessary a study that of civil law is to all treaties with foreign princes and strangers, and how few there be at this present to the King's majesty's service therein."

The present part of the work of Professor Nys only brings us down to the time when the influence of England in European affairs became potent. It thus treats what may be regarded as the separately formative period of juridical notions in that country. It is hoped that in his future discussions he will trace the part played by England in European affairs with a view especially to illustrate her share in the development of international law as we find it to-day.

J. B. MOORE.

Problems of Greater Britain. By the Right Hon. Sir CHARLES WENTWORTH DILKE, Bart., author of "Greater Britain," *etc.* With maps. London and New York, Macmillan and Co., 1890.—12mo, pp. xii, 738.

Thirty Years of Colonial Government. A selection from the despatches and letters of the Right Hon. Sir George Ferguson Bowen, governor successively of Queensland, New Zealand, Victoria, Mauritius, and Hong Kong. Edited by STANLEY LANE-POOLE. Two volumes. London and New York, Longmans, Green and Co., 1889.—8vo, pp. viii, 460; viii, 467.

Viewed in the light of the travel, the reading and the reflection that were needed for its production, Sir Charles Dilke's book, as a contribution to political science, is fully worthy to rank with the great works of de Tocqueville and Bryce. Its scope is vast ; its treatment detailed but concise. Every page is crammed with important facts or equally important inferences. Nothing more can be attempted here than the most general indication of the subject-matter and of the author's point of view.

After an introduction strikingly free from rhetorical ornament, Sir Charles gives a rapid but interesting survey of the British possessions in North America. No one who is interested in the exact state of Manitoba, in Canadian protection or in the stability of Sir John Macdonald's government, should fail to read this portion of the book. In the fourth chapter of this part, the author discusses the future relations of Canada to the United States, reaching the conclusion that there is no likelihood of any immediate union. He has a few words to say about ourselves and incidentally, and justly, criticizes Mr. Bryce for not having dwelt enough on the race question in the South. While much of what Sir Charles himself says on this subject is true, he can hardly be said to have added to our knowledge. Part II is devoted to Australasia, and the space allotted is nearly twice that given to Canada. Victoria, New South Wales and Queensland have each a special chapter, the other Australasian colonies, including, of course, New Zealand, being treated together. The author's great power of grouping facts, his genial descriptive faculty, his knowledge of character, and his wide literary sympathies are all seen at their best in these chapters, which alone would have made the reputation of a lesser man. To particularize is impossible, but attention may be called to the fairness with which Sir Charles, himself a free trader, discusses the question of Australian protection ; and the regret may be expressed that he did not give us more information as to the constitution and working of the various courts of law. The word "court," by the way, does not occur as an independent subject in the admirably full index which makes the volume so convenient a work of reference.

Part III treats of South Africa, to the importance of which as an imperial possession Sir Charles is fully alive. A noteworthy account is given here of the Transvaal and its able President, Paul Kruger ; and one could wish that the notice of Sir Hercules Robinson, one of England's most capable governors, and his policy had been more extended.

Part IV is devoted to India, and nearly one half of its space is occupied with the momentous question of Indian defence. The author, whose knowledge of military affairs is well known, has many criticisms to make on the present condition of the Indian army, and he points out

with great effect the danger of allowing Russia to move her frontiers forward. He earnestly recommends an alliance with China, for whose power he has great respect, believing in fact that the day is not far distant when Russia, China, and the English-speaking peoples will divide the world among them.

Part V gives a short and interesting survey of the Crown Colonies, and Part VI considers the "Problems" that give the book its name. Here the author's comprehensive grasp of facts and distinguished logical power do excellent service. Labor, the liquor laws, religion, education, colonial democracy — these are some of the topics treated. It is obvious that they appeal to every thinking man. Indeed one of the conclusions that Sir Charles is constantly drawing is that England must look more and more to the colonies for models in legislation and for the solutions of the problems that are confronting her statesmen at home. But this conclusion is just as applicable to the United States as to England. Australia has already taught us how to cast a pure ballot, although we were casting ballots when she was in her cradle; who knows what she will teach us in the future? Our labor reformers, our prohibitionists, our protectionists, our state socialists and their adversaries, can all find much in this book to set them thinking.

Part VII treats the greatest problem of all, *viz.* the future relations between the mother country and the colonies; and Part VIII the related problem of "Imperial Defence." In regard to the former, Sir Charles does not think that "the idea of imperial unity has made rapid progress of a practical kind;" in regard to the latter, he seems hopeful of the security of Great Britain, especially if she will not trust too exclusively to her navy.

All that can be said in conclusion is that every one should read the book for himself. The author has done for "Greater Britain" what Mr. Bryce has done for the United States; and if his method of treatment, as compared with that of the latter, is extensive rather than intensive, — if we miss at times Mr. Bryce's wonderful probing, — this fact is naturally accounted for by the greater scope of his subject. Sir Charles has given fresh proof of what has long been a belief among thoughtful observers, that in qualifications for enlightened statesmanship, he is quite the equal of any living Englishman.

It is well nigh impossible to lay down Sir George Bowen's book without feeling that its two volumes might with propriety have been reduced to one; but it is equally impossible to take leave of the veteran governor without feeling the highest respect for his character and no little satisfaction at having been allowed to read his own record of his life. For it is his own record, Mr. Stanley Lane-Poole occupying a properly subordinate position in the presentation. Possibly the dinners given in

honor of Sir George are described at too great length, and his speeches and despatches have not always, perhaps, been sufficiently abridged. This indifference to the laws of proportion and a tendency to repetitions constitute the chief defects of the work, which is not without interest, however, to the student of politics.

The title-page gives some idea of Sir George Bowen's varied experience. Appointed governor of Queensland in 1859, he found himself, when only thirty-eight, in a position of responsibility from which many an older statesman would have shrunk. Moreton Bay had received with its new name a new constitution, and it was Sir George Bowen's duty to teach his people how to use their privileges wisely. His success was great, and it is hard to recognize in the Queensland of his time (1859-1868) any resemblance to the sturdy young would-be republic that has been giving the mother country so much trouble of late. The governor's life was not a bed of roses, however. Among the difficulties which he was obliged to meet and which he met successfully, was that one so familiar in our own history—the demand for an inconvertible paper currency. In 1868 Sir George was transferred to New Zealand, where he had the credit of bringing to an end the long and troublesome Second Maori War. In 1873 he received “the ‘blue ribbon’ of colonial governments—that of Victoria.” Here the student will find a good account of one of those curious parliamentary deadlocks for which Australia is famous. The next eight years of Sir George Bowen's life were divided equally between the Crown Colonies of Mauritius and Hong Kong. Naturally these administrations are not as important to the student as those of the three great Australian colonies, but no one will grudge the time spent in reading of the delightful old French life in Mauritius or of the excursions that Sir George found time to make in China and Japan. The second volume ends with an account of a commission to Malta in 1888 and a reprint of Sir George Bowen's pamphlet on *The Federation of the British Empire*—an idea to which his whole book is distinctly partial.

W. P. TRENT.

A Manual of the Constitutional History of Canada. By JOHN GEORGE BOURINOT, LL.D., F.R.S. Can., Clerk of the House of Commons, Can. Montreal, Dawson Brothers, 1888. — 238 pp.

The Constitution of Canada. By J. E. C. MUNRO, Professor of Law, Owens College, Victoria University. Cambridge, University Press, 1889. — 356 pp., with Table of Cases and Appendix.

The literature on the constitutional history and law of Canada has increased with considerable rapidity during the last few years. The